

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

NEWS SERVICE

Fig Co.
Date. 1 August

Item No. 1

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FBIS 42 (SEE 57 OF 29 JULY)

CSSR: RUDE PRAVO ON ACTIVITIES OF U.S. AGENTS'

100110284 PRAGUE CTK IN ENGLISH 0820 GMT 1 AUG 78 LD

(TEXT) PRAGUE, AUG 1, CETEXA--RUDE PRAVO REVEALS TODAY IN DETAIL THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CIA AGENTS KENT KNIGHT AND FORD HELLMAN WHO TRIED THROUGH DRUGS, BRIBES AND INTIMIDATION TO FORCE CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZEN OTAKAR NADHERA TO PROVIDE THEM WITH ESPIONAGE INFORMATION.

THE U.S. CITIZEN KENT KNIGHT WAS OSTENSIBLY ENGAGED IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA; FORD HELLMAN WAS PROTECTED BY THE PASSPORT OF A U.S. EMBASSY ATTACHE IN PRAGUE. THE METHODS THEY USED WERE TYPICAL FOR THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. OTAKAR NADHERA SAID: "WHEN I OBJECTED THAT I DID NOT WANT TO BETRAY MY COUNTRY, THEY CATEGORICALLY REJECTED MY ARGUMENT AND THREATENED THAT I SHALL BE COMPLETELY DISCREDITED POLITICALLY AS WELL AS PROFESSIONALLY. IN CASE I SHOULD TELL ANYTHING TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK SECURITY SERVICE, I WOULD NOT BE BELIEVED AND WOULD BE DISMISSED FROM WORK; IF NOT ARRESTED AND TRIED FOR ESPIONAGE".

CIA AGENTS HAVE SEARCHED THE FLAT OF OTAKAR NADHERA AFTER HE DID THEIR RECRUITMENT LETTER, AND THEY ALSO SUBJECTED HIM TO A PERSONAL SEARCH. THE LETTER WAS HANDED OVER BY O. NADHERA TO OFFICIALS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK INTERIOR MINISTRY, AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK PUBLIC WAS ABLE TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH HIS EXPERIENCE ON TELEVISION.

OTAKAR NADHERA SOUGHT RECOURSE TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK SECURITY SERVICE AS HE WAS SURE THAT ITS MISSION IS NOT TO CHICANEER (AS RECEIVED) THE CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZENS, BUT TO PROTECT THEM AGAINST PROVOCATIONS AND BLACKMAIL, THE PAPER CONCLUDES.

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